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# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### NEWS RELEASE



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner*  
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Sitka Area Office  
304 Lake Street, Rm. 103  
Sitka, Alaska 99835  
Date: July 26, 2012  
Time: 3:45 p.m.

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#### **SOUTHEAST ALASKA DRIFT GILLNET FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT**

Sitka. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today the opening of the Southeast Alaska drift gillnet fishery, during the times and in the areas listed below, beginning on Sunday, **July 29, 2012**.

Section 1-B: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 29, through 12:00 noon, Thursday, August 2**, with the following restriction:

Pearse and Portland Canals: will be closed north of the latitude of Akeku Point located at the southern entrance of Edwards Passage.

District 6: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 29, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 1**, with the following restrictions:

Section 6-D: will be closed north and east of a line from Mariposa Rock Buoy to the northernmost tip of Point Harrington, to a point on Etolin Island at 56°09.60' N. latitude, 132°42.70' W. longitude, to the southernmost tip of Point Stanhope and south of a line from Point Stanhope to Luck Point;

Salmon Bay: will be closed west of a line from Point Colpoys to Rookery Island Light to the westernmost tip of Fire Island to a point on Prince of Wales Island at the latitude of the westernmost tip of Fire Island.

District 8: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 29, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 1**, with the following restrictions:

Stikine River: waters off the Stikine River will be closed north and west of a line from Babbler Point to Hour Point along the shore of Wrangell Island to Point Highfield to the southern end of Liesnoi Island to the southern end of Greys Island to the small island near the eastern entrance of Blind Slough to the nearest point of Mitkof Island, and south and east of a line from the prominent point of Mitkof Island nearest Coney Island to the northern end of Coney Island to a point 500 yards north of Jap Creek on the mainland shore;

Beacon Point/Point Frederick Area: waters of Frederick Sound will be closed west of a line from the District 10 boundary one nautical mile off the Kupreanof Island shoreline to Sukoi Island Light to Point Frederick;

Kunk Creek: waters of Kunk Creek will be closed west of a line extending due south from a point on Etolin Island at 56°17.82' N. latitude, 132°22.98' W. longitude, to the District 7/8 boundary line in Zimovia Strait.

Section 11-B: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 29, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 1**, with the following restrictions:

Port Snettisham: waters of Port Snettisham will be closed east of a line from Point Styleman to Point Anmer;

Limestone Inlet: will be closed east of a line from a point on the north shore at 58°02.09' N. latitude, 133°58.87' W. longitude, to a point on the south shore at 58°01.92' N. latitude, 133°58.87' W. longitude (inside markers);

Gillnet mesh restriction south of the latitude of Circle Point: from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 29, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 1**, gillnets must have a minimum mesh size of six inches.

**Section 11-C: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 29, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 1.**

Section 15-A: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 29, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 1**, in the waters of Lynn Canal south of the latitude of Seduction Point and in the waters of Chilkoot Inlet south of the White Rock line at 59°18.05' N. latitude, 135°31.33' W. longitude and 59°18.73' N. latitude, 135°30.16' W. longitude.

Section 15-C: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 29, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 1, with the following restriction:**

**Endicott River: Section 15-C will be closed within two nautical miles of the western shoreline of Lynn Canal from the latitude of Danger Point at 58°41.73' N. latitude north to a point within two nautical miles of the western shoreline of Lynn Canal at the latitude of Point Sherman.**

Section 15-C: waters of the Boat Harbor Terminal Harvest Area (THA) will be open until further notice within two nautical miles of the western shoreline of Lynn Canal from the latitude of Danger Point at 58°41.73' N latitude, south to a point 2.4 nautical miles north of Point Whidbey at 58°36.96' N. latitude.

**Fishermen are reminded that 5 AAC 39.290(a) prohibits fishing for salmon within 500 yards of any salmon stream or river, or over beds and channels of streams and rivers, at all stages of the tide. This regulation applies to both Pat Creek and McCormack Creek in Zimovia Strait in the waters of District 8.**

King salmon less than 28" that are harvested in the commercial drift gillnet fisheries may be retained and sold. King salmon less than 28" in length, and those of Alaska hatchery origin, will not be counted against the Alaskan allocation of the Pacific Salmon Treaty harvest. The department is discontinuing the use of species code 411 beginning in 2012 to account for small king salmon in drift gillnet fisheries and instead will rely on ADF&G port sampling programs for that purpose. For drift gillnet fisheries, only species code 410 should be used to report king salmon of all sizes. Fish and Game samplers working at the processing facilities will also identify hatchery-reared king salmon so those fish are not counted against the Alaskan share of the harvest.

The emergency order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S5212.

Southeast Alaska Drift Gillnet Harvest Estimates  
Statistical Week 30 (July 22 through 28)  
Preliminary Estimates Compiled July 26, 2012

District	NUMBER OF SALMON						Boats	Days Open
	King	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total		
Section 1-B	100	1,500	2,000	25,000	30,000	58,600	30	4
Section 11-B	25	34,000	500	33,000	180,000	247,525	125	3
District 6	50	9,000	11,000	15,500	16,000	51,550	40	3
District 8	70	2,500	700	1,500	44,000	48,770	63	3
Deep Inlet THA	130	50	10	5,800	7,300	13,290	9	3
District 15	150	51,000	59	49,000	119,000	219,209	105	4
Total	525	98,050	14,269	129,800	396,300	638,944		

District	FISH PER BOAT FOR THE PERIOD					
	King	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total
Section 1-B	3	50	67	833	1,000	1,953
Section 11-B	0	272	4	264	1,440	1,980
District 6	1	225	275	388	400	1,289
District 8	1	40	11	24	698	774
Deep Inlet THA	14	6	1	644	811	1,477
District 15	1	486	1	467	1,133	2,088

Anita Bay THA: 3,500 kings and 55,000 chums harvested to date.

Nakat Inlet THA: 220,000 chums harvested to date.

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Hoonah	Yakutat
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Gillnet Hotline	225-6870	772-3700			465-8905	766-2830		